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DCI/IC-75-3974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Position Papers

1. Reference is your request at the evening staff meeting on 20 November that position papers to be submitted for the record to the Congressional Select Committees be prepared on the "Sensitive Issues and Allegations" and "Issues and Answers" topics being addressed by the Action Plan Task Group.

2. You already have reviewed 14 option papers prepared by the Task Group on these topics.

3. We have re-examined the entire list, and present the following recommendations to you concerning position papers.

a. "Action Plan Issues and Answers" papers

No. 1 Role and functions of the senior U.S. foreign intelligence officer

The response to this must await completion of the ICG Task Group report being prepared by Mr. Ogilvie (OMB), Hank Knoche, [] et al.

No. 2 Strengthening Executive Branch oversight of intelligence

This is not considered an appropriate topic for a position paper to be submitted to the SSC/HSC.

No. 3 Congressional oversight of intelligence

Position paper being prepared by OLC.

No. 4 Retention of covert action capability

Two papers prepared by DDO, already used at the Senate Select Committee hearing on covert action, respond to this topic. No further statement is considered to be needed.

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No. 5 Mechanism for production of NIEs

Position paper will be prepared by NIO/WE.

No. 6 Restrictions on intelligence activities to respect rights of U.S. citizens

Position paper will be drafted by OGC. This will require close coordination with the White House.

No. 7 Serving Congressional needs for substantive intelligence

It is recommended that no position paper be submitted to the SSC/HSC on this topic. It is not in our interest that this be a central issue or that the Congress focus upon it. Rather, this should be handled in a quiet way, "rocking along" until after the new Congressional oversight mechanism is functioning and necessary negotiations can be undertaken outside of an "investigative atmosphere. To the extent such is necessary, this topic will be referenced in the statement on Congressional oversight (Topic 3 above).

Telling the intelligence story better

This is not considered a suitable topic for a position paper to be submitted to the SSC/HSC.

No. 9 Agency position on draft administration legislation proposals

This is not considered a suitable topic for a paper to go to the Congressional committees. Position papers will be prepared for the White House as appropriate when administration proposals surface.

No. 10 DCI philosophy on secrecy

The study on this topic is still under way. It probably will be a suitable topic for a position statement in the near future.

No. 11 Internal command and control of CIA

This is not considered a suitable topic for a paper to go to the Congressional committees.

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2 SECRET

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No. 12 GAO audit authority over CIA funds

A position paper will be prepared by DDA on the basis of the report now being prepared by the GAO Audit Task Force of DDA.

No. 13 Sources and methods legislation

A position paper will be prepared by OLC.

No. 14 The proper CIA/FBI relationship

This is not considered a suitable topic for a paper to go to the Congressional committees.

No. 15

Legislative aspects of this problem will be covered in the study now under way (in response to Jack Marsh's request) concerning possible legislation. No separate statement for the SSC/HSC is considered appropriate since this is essentially an Executive Branch problem.

No. 16

How can adoption of new intelligence legislation be expedited

It is suggested this is not an appropriate topic for a statement to be submitted to the SSC/HSC. This is an Executive Branch matter, and is being addressed by the Action Plan Task Group.

b. "Sensitive Issues and Allegations" Papers

No. 1

It is recommended no action be taken to prepare any further statement for submission to the SSC.

No. 2

Reopening of investigations (Warren Commission, etc.)

No paper on this subject has yet been prepared by the Action Plan Task Group. It is suggested that any effort to prepare a statement for submission to the SSC or HSC be deferred to await any possible developments in this area.

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3 SECRET

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No. 10 Predictability of major international events

The response to this topic was the speech drafted by Richard Lehman. A brief statement on this subject will be prepared for submission to the HSC.

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No. 11



No. 12 CIA and Watergate

The Action Plan Task Group has this topic on a "hold" status pending any indication of SSC or HSC interest in the subject. It is suggested that no formal statement on this topic is required.

No. 13 "Distortion" of intelligence for policy purposes

A statement on this general topic already has been submitted to the DCI, based on the earlier paper prepared by 

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In addition, Paul Walsh has drafted a statement on the Sam Adams' charges.

No additional statement is considered needed.



Samuel V. Wilson
Lieutenant General, USA
Chairman, Action Plan Task Group

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5
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